

When Villages Meet Cities : A Sustainable Journey

Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong

Background

Both Tuen Mun and Yuen Long areas have very long local history as people have resided along the coasts of these areas for more than 4000 years. They also have valuable historical, cultural and ecological significances, like "Hung Lau" in Tuen Mun as the revolutionary base of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, and the Wetland Park in Tin Shui Wai. Moreover, every village has its own cultural products like 'Poon Choi' of Fung Kong Tsuen and "glutinous rice cake" of Sha Ha Tsuen. However, these unique local culture and products have been threatened by the speedy and intensive urbanization of Tuen Mun and Yuen Long. The "One Village, One Product" Project aims at preserving these traditional culture and unique products. It would also enhance the sense of belonging of the local villagers and strengthen the local networks among different communities in the urban and rural areas.

Project Objectives

- To enhance young people's understanding on the concept and importance of sustainable development in the Tuen Mun and Yuen Long districts through seminars, village visits, workshops, competitions, exhibitions, reporting and setting up of concern groups, etc. Through the co-operation with the villagers to run the flea markets for village products, community integration, commercialization of the local cultural products and promotion of the sustainable development concept can be achieved;
- To introduce and promote the villages' traditional foods and products to the rest of Hong Kong; and to come up with action plans to preserve these valuable resources of the community; and
- To cultivate the sense of respect towards rural heritage and culture, to consolidate the linkage and harmony between rural and urban areas and to bring up the importance of sustainable development through seminar, exhibition and marketplace of the "One Village, One Product" Project.

Programmes

1. School Programmes

- Seminars on "Research Skills in Community Case Study", "Historic Narration" and "Sustainable Development of villages"
- Guided tours to villages
- Workshop on "One Village, One Product"
- Survey and assessment on "One Village, One Product : a sustainable tour"

2. Joint-school Projects

- Integrative learning competition on "One Village, One Product"
- "One Village, One Product – Flea Markets for Village Products"
- Exhibition and Reporting session
- Prize Presentation Ceremony
- The set up of "Agenda 21" action group



學生參觀鄉村落
Students' visit to rural villages